

**TYCHERUS NIGRIDENS (WESMAEL, 1845)
(HYM.: ICHNEUMONIDAE) NEW TO BRITAIN**

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Abstract

Tycherus nigridentis (Wesmael) (Hym.: Ichneumonidae) is recorded as a British species from Yorkshire. The second and third British records of *Phaeogenes curator* (Thunberg) are also reported.

Introduction

I am indebted to Erich Diller of the Zoologische Staatssammlung in Munich for determining two female specimens of this *Tycherus nigridentis* (Wesm.), which I had failed to identify in Perkins' RES key (Perkins, 1959). Their details are:

VC 62: Forge Valley, Scarborough (SE 9887) 5.9.1986, collected by W.A.Ely.

VC 63: Hartley Brook Dyke, Sheffield (SK 363931) 2.9.1987 collected by A.Brackenbury.

The genus *Phaeogenes* sensu Perkins has been divided since 1959 and *Tycherus* is one of the segregates. This species runs to couplet 14 in Perkins' key to *Phaeogenes*, but differs from the two options there (*heterogonus* and *curator*) principally on the structure of the hind coxae, which resemble Perkins' fig. 387. The basic colour scheme of the two Yorkshire specimens is similar to both these species but the anterior legs are red with the tarsi only slightly infuscated and the hind femora are red on the basal third and black on the apical two-thirds. The rest of the hind legs are coloured as in *heterogonus* and *curator* while the postannellus is shorter than the following flagellar segment (as in *curator* but more slender).

Perkins could only record one specimen of *Phaeogenes curator* (Thunberg) from Britain and I take this opportunity to place on record two others:

VC 63: Newsholme Dene, Keighley (SE04) 14.9.1948 collected by J.Wood (det W.A.Ely).

VC 63: Holmehouse Wood, Keighley (SE04) 5.10.1948 collected by J.Wood (det W.A.Ely).

Both specimens are in the Manchester Museum collections.

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References

- Perkins, J.F., 1959. Hymenoptera Ichneumonoidea Ichneumonidae, key to subfamilies and Ichneumoninae – I. *Handbooks for the Identification of British Insects* Vol. VII Part 2(ai). Royal Entomological Society of London, London.